LOIS HUGHES.

Plumbago Blue (Leptotes plinius pseudocassius) male and female on Plumbago auriculata

Butterfly & Other Invertebrates Club Inc. Newsletter

ISSUE NO: 33 DATE: JUNE 2004 ISSN: 1326-0006
www.connectqld.org.au/boic

CLUB PLANNING AND ORGANIZING GROUP - 2004

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PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

A quarterly meeting is scheduled in order to plan club activities and the newsletter. See BOIC Programme.

CONTACT ADDRESS

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AIMS OF ORGANIZATION

- To establish a network of people growing butterfly host plants;
- To hold information meetings about invertebrates;
- To organize excursions around the theme of invertebrates e.g. butterflies, fireflies, ants, dragonflies, beetles, freshwater habitats, and others;
- To promote the conservation of the invertebrate habitat;
- To promote the keeping of invertebrates as alternative pets;
- To promote research into invertebrates;
- To encourage the construction of invertebrate friendly habitats in urban areas.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

If you want to submit an item for publication the following deadlines apply:
March issue – February 21st
June issue – May 21st
September issue – August 21st
December issue – November 21st

COVER DRAWING

Plumbago Blue Butterflies (*Leptotes plinius pseudocassius*) on *Plumbago auriculata* by Lois Hughes

PRESIDENT'S POSTING

Welcome to our 33rd edition. Once again it has extensive contributions from regulars and others, for this many thanks to all who've made it possible. Our next will mark our 10th anniversary as a Club. As has been our practice, the issue after our AGM carries my report on the Club's activities for the last year. You will see these have become extensive.

In order to continue sustaining the level of activity on the various aspects of our Club's aims (see inside front cover), and developing new areas in this exciting field of promoting invertebrates and their important role in the environment, we would like to invite you to think about how you, or others that you know who are interested, could volunteer some more of your time, energy and / or expertise. Please feel free to contact me about any aspects of the Club and its current and potential roles and activities.

Helen Schwencke

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President's Report for 2003 to 30th March 2004, delivered to the AGM held on 3rd April, 2004, at IndigiScapes, Runnymede Rd., Capalaba

We are now entering our 10th year since our establishment. The last year saw our Club's efforts dedicated to a wide range of community education activities. Based on our efforts in recent years of establishing the website and producing a range of booklets, much of our ongoing work has been involved with following through.

The website has elicited a large number of queries. These are very ably managed by Daphne who answers those she can and directs any others to those club members best able to answer them. Our website was also given a number of "website awards". State Library of Queensland was so impressed with the design they asked whether our site could be nationally archived as an example of good websites. Unfortunately, due to internal issues with State Library they migrated our site to another server and program and it lost much of its' excellent presentation. Work is gradually being undertaken to rebuild it once again.

The booklets produced in the preceding years have given our Club a great information distribution tool. A considerable portion of the Club's income is generated by sales of these booklets. Our annual membership directory (which includes only those who've agreed to be involved) is providing a networking tool for our members. We hope that this will increase with forthcoming editions of the directory as more members agree to participate.

The Club's newsletter, in its 32nd issue at the time of this report, has continued to be the main way of providing information to our members. It is also distributed to a number of libraries, where it reaches a much wider audience, some of whom contact us periodically. In our December issue, no. 31, we took the unusual step of printing a taxonomic article, naming a new species of moth. We did this to further one of our aims, namely: to promote research into invertebrates; and to raise the profile of taxonomy, both with our members and generally in the community.

Over the last 5 issues of our newsletter (up to issue 32, March 2004), 67 items have appeared contributed by 27 different people. Thanks go to Daphne for her continued dedication in making its publication possible. Thanks also goes to Lois Hughes for her delightful illustrations, and to our other occasional illustrators and photo contributors. Also thanks goes to our main article contributors, John Moss, Frank Jordan, and Bob Miller. Further thanks go to the people who help with regular and occasional contributions throughout the year and helped provide a wider diversity of ideas, information and observations. These people are: Peter Hendry, Lois Hughes, myself, Felix Jenkins, Martyn Robinson, James Beale, Dennis Bell, David Lane, Thais Eisen, Jan Sked, Forest of Dreams, Ken Dorey, Hilton & Enid Selvey, Terry Houston, Society for Insect Studies, Les Ring, David St Henry, Murdoch DeBaar & Don Franzen, Kay Cotterall, Bob James and Kelvin & Amelia Nielsen.

We have started to use email messages to our members when various items that may be of interest emerge at short notice. Feedback from this has been positive so far. If you are interested in getting this information, please keep our Club up to date with your current email address. Thanks goes to Daphne for her efforts in providing this information.

Our membership continues around the 180 mark and is drawn from around Australia, though predominantly from the south-east Queensland region, with a number from other states. We also have a few far-flung members around the world.

The last year saw our Club make contact with the Society for Insect Studies based in Sydney as a "sister" club/association. We exchange newsletters with this Society and a range of other organisations, including the WA Insect Study Group. In time we hope to build our networks across Australia.

We have continued with a regular monthly program of excursions and activities, though due to a number of circumstances, three of these were cancelled in the last year. The weather, one day rainy, the other with extremely high temperatures, were responsible for two of these cancellations, while injury to the excursion leader was responsible for the third. Our excursion to Runcorn wetlands (May 2003) was unexpectedly extremely well attended due to some publicity in the local paper organized by Peter Hendry that included a photo of Ross Kendall with a Monarch butterfly on his nose. Other activities have included:
Show and tell and slide presentation on Mistletoes by John Moss (June)
A travelogue on Africa and African butterflies by Mike Barnett (August)
An excursion on butterfly gardening for beginners at the Greening Australia Nursery at The Gap (September)
A visit to the Dutton Park Butterfly Habitat and slide presentation at Dutton Park presented by Frank Jordan and myself (October)
Boondall Wetlands visit, led by Frank Jordan (November)
Laidley Permaculture Garden visit, led by Dave Grubb & Pam Pittaway (March)
During this time we have continued our quarterly planning meetings that enable us to bring you this newsletter and program of activities. Thanks goes to the event leaders and also to the Redlands Shire Council and IndigiScapes for making an excellent venue available to community groups at a very affordable price.

Club members have continued to be involved in a wide range of activities on behalf of the Club. Frank Jordan principally, and John Moss have done presentations and workshops on butterflies to a range of other groups, including gardening clubs, revegetation groups and naturalist groups. Other promotional activities have included information stalls at a range of other organisations' functions, including Brisbane City Council Green Days, festivals and information days, such as the Society for Growing Australian Plants Flower Show. These stalls have been principally done by Frank Jordan, Daphne Bowden, Lois Hughes, John Moss and myself. John Moss, John Neilsen and Ross Kendall conducted a stall at the Oakey Show in March.

Work on various revegetation projects has progressed apace. This has included the Dutton Park Butterfly Habitat and the Woodford Folk Festival Butterfly Walk and wetland sites. A stall on the Butterfly Walk was held for the 5-day duration of the Festival in December 2003 by Frank and myself. Further promotion of the clubs aims has been undertaken by members working on other revegetation projects. In particular John Moss has been involved with the Green Corps at the Eprapah Environmental Centre. With his support several booklets have been produced on this area including one a new butterfly host plant garden.

Thanks goes to other club members involved with butterfly and other invertebrate plantings and other promotion in their local areas or field of activity. In this regard, particular thanks goes to Katie Hiller and other Queensland Museum Inquiry staff who make information about our Club and our publications and posters available to the public.

My heartfelt thanks for the ongoing support the club has received from its members, and goes most particularly its management members, Rob MacSloy (Treasurer), John Moss (Vice-President), and our hard working, consistent and dedicated Planning Committee including Frank Jordan, Daphne Bowden, Lois Hughes and Peter Hendry. In particular our systems for allowing information to flow well are managed by Rob, who along with being Treasurer has undertaken a number of secretarial, sales and distribution functions. Further thanks goes to Daphne for her work already mentioned elsewhere, to Lois for her efforts as the Club's Publicity Officer, to Peter for filling the Secretarial role and to John for his role as Vice President and in ensuring scientific accuracy in our newsletter and to Frank for his role as a project officer. Thanks also to those Club members who promote our club and our endeavours in their own activities.

Wishing everyone health and prosperity.
Helen Schwencke
President

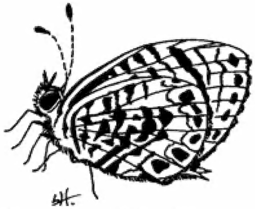
CREATURE FEATURE

Plumbago Blue *(Leptotes plinius pseudocassius)*

Most people have probably noticed that there were not many butterflies around until this year. I think the reason for this was that the last few years have been so dry, the lush growth that the butterflies needed for their larvae had been almost non existent, and because of this, insect numbers had diminished. This is all part of a natural cycle and everything has now returned to normal with adequate rainfall.

An up-side to this is, with larval numbers so low, parasite numbers also become depleted, so when butterflies do return, they should be in good numbers until parasite numbers explode and control them.

One butterfly that is in good abundance at the moment, has a name that is about four times as big as it is. *Leptotes plinius pseudocassius*, the Plumbago Blue, is also commonly known as the Zebra Blue. The first common name refers to the fact that its larval foodplant is Plumbago, either *Plumbago zeylanica* or the introduced *Plumbago auriculata.* Both seem to be extremely attractive to the adult butterflies, and they can be seen flying around them in big numbers.



Plumbago or Zebra Blue

The second common name, Zebra Blue, refers to the patterns exhibited on the underwings of the adults. This is actually the identifying feature of "just another one of those small blue butterflies".

The adult butterfly has a wingspan of only about 22mm. The male is purple-blue on the uppersides of the wings, the females are a glistening blue with a whitish suffusion throughout, both have small tails.

If you already have a Plumbago growing at your place, grab a magnifying glass and have a close look over the newest flower buds. I have found that the larvae are very fond of the un-opened flowers and can be fairly easily found on them.

The larvae are either green or a pinkish-brown colour with a darker stripe running from head to tail on their backs. They sort of look like coloured maggots, *sorry about that description, but they do!!* they are about 9mm when fully grown.

The pupae are caramel in colour, mottled with small brown spots. They are found suspended upside-down, attached to a stem of the foodplant by the tail and a central-silken girdle.

The adults are on the wing most months of the year.

Further information about this butterfly can be had by referencing *"Butterflies of Australia, their Identification, Biology and Distribution"* by Michael Braby, 2000, or *Butterflies of Australia* by I. Common and D. Waterhouse, 1981.

Bob Miller

PLANT PROFILE

Plumbago auriculata

Plumbago auriculata is the exotic host plant for the Plumbago Blue butterfly and has regained its popularity and broadened its appeal with the introduction of two more colours. “Royal Cape” is a much deeper and non-fading coloured blue than the original. “Allea” is a white version and these are all used extensively in our civic gardens as well as in streetscapes and around shopping centres, often in massed plantings and as hedges.

They are long flowering, hardy shrubs well suited to our climate and with minimal care will produce their phlox-like delicate heads of flowers in abundance from late Spring to Autumn. Suitable for either full sun or part shade, they will grow to 2 m. high with a similar spread and can be cut back in early spring.

I am always reluctant to heavily prune mine because the butterfly’s whole lifecycle revolves around the flower buds and seed heads. For the new generation to emerge after winter it would necessitate eggs or pupae lying dormant during winter amongst the seed heads. The pupae are so small they would be difficult to detect.

I have planted my Plumbago so that the slender arching branches intermingle with Buddleia, Pentas and the white flowered Duranta, all favoured nectar blossoms for butterflies. At times there are clouds of Zebra Blues actively breeding and feeding amongst the blooms.

Although Plumbago isn’t a native plant, its excellence as a host plant cannot be disputed and if planted in an area where it can spread, as is its habit, to cover an unsightly fence or rocky bank this semi-climbing or scrambling shrub will provide hours of pleasure for the butterfly enthusiast.

Lois Hughes

The following article has been reproduced from the March 2001 edition of the SGAP Qld. Region Bulletin with permission of the author and the artist.

Plumbago zeylanica Drawing by Margaret Smith Text by Jan Sked

FAMILY: Plumbaginaceae

DERIVATION: *Plumbago*: Latin name for Leadwort, from ‘plumbum’, lead, with suffix ‘ago’ – a termination of many Latin names used to indicate a resemblance to;

	zeylanica: from Ceylon, now known as Sri Lanka
COMMON NAME:	Native Plumbago
PRONUNCIATION:	plum-BAY-go zay-LAN-ik-a

Plumbago zeylanica is a scrambling shrub that sends out long slender stems and tends to support itself on the surrounding vegetation.

Leaves are generally light green, up to 8 cm long, often with wavy margins.

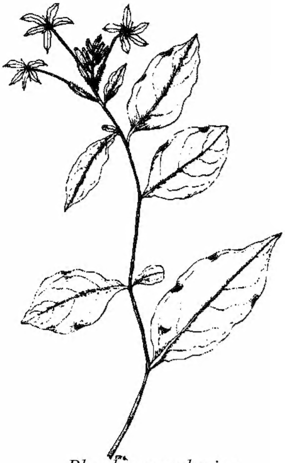
White or pale blue, tubular flowers, about 2.5 cm long, with distinctive stiff hairs at the base, are produced in autumn and winter.

This is a widespread species, found in warmer areas throughout Queensland, New South Wales, northern Australia and overseas. It is a tough little plant that will grow in most soils in sun or shade, but is susceptible to frosts.

Because of its scrambling nature, *P. zeylanica* needs to be clipped continually if you want a more compact plant. However, it can be quite effective if its long stems are allowed to trail over and amongst rocks in a rockery. It is also good for embankments.

Propagation can be from seed, which does not need pre-sowing treatment, or from cuttings of firm young growth, which strike readily.

This plant is fairly uncommon in cultivation, although its exotic relation *P. auriculata*, is extensively grown.



Plumbago zeylanica

Native Plumbago is a host plant for the Zebra Blue butterfly (*Syntarucus plinius*).

CREATURE NOTE

The other day (13th/4/04) Lynne and myself found a 2/3rds grown Impatiens Hawk Moth larva (*Theretra oldenlandiae*) on one of our paths. As it was stationary and out in the open we stopped to observe why and were surprised to see it was busily eating a Native Violet (*Viola hederacea*) leaf. As this plant is currently overtaking large parts of the garden we carefully moved the caterpillar to a thick clump of the same and hope there will be more to follow and wish them Bon Appetit!

Martyn Robinson

REPORTS

On 21st March, 2004, the writer accompanied by his son Ronald and Frank Jordan (B.O.I.C member) joined a group from the Queensland Naturalists' Club in visiting a bushland site in the western suburbs of Brisbane. This site, surrounding the Enoggera Military Camp is rarely visited by naturalists and the opportunity arose to catalogue birds, plants and insects on this day.

The following are lists of butterflies and hostplants that were seen which included 36 butterfly species and 22 hostplants. The limitations of such a survey included time constraints. No doubt further surveys would find more species; and perhaps other vegetation complexes are on site in adjacent areas of the camp that we did not access on the day. Also as riparian vegetation is not apparently as diverse as at other sections of Enoggera Creek, most rainforest species of butterflies were absent.

Only observed three common species of skippers (Hesperiidae) in spite of good conditions for grass, matrush and sedge growth, their main groups of hostplants. No doubt others would be found on further surveys.

Highlights of the day included seeing a final instar larva of the Big Greasy (*Cressida cressida*) feeding on the tiny scrambler *Aristolochia* sp. D'Aguilar Range. It had virtually exhausted its supply of hostplant with no others in sight, although not yet full size.

We also saw several larvae and pupae of the Common Imperial Hairstreak (*Jalmenus evagoras*) on the Black Wattle (*Acacia leiocalyx*). Many ants of the genus *Iridomyrmex* were in attendance.

Butterflies observed/identified at Enoggera Military Camp bushland 21st March 2004 QNC Excursion

Papilionidae

Papilio aegeus – Orchard Swallowtail
P. fuscus – Fuscous Swallowtail
P. demoleus – Chequered Swallowtail
Cressida cressida – Clearwing Swallowtail or "Big Greasy" Plus larva on hostplant (see hostplant list)
Graphium sarpaedon – Blue Triangle
G. eurypylus – Pale Triangle

Papilio fuscus – Fuscous Swallowtail

Pieridae
Delias nigrina – Common or Black Jezebel
D. argenthona – Scarlet or Northern Jezebel
Catopsilia pomona – Lemon Migrant
C. pyranthe – White or Common Migrant
Eurema hecabe – Large or Common Grass Yellow
E. brigitta – No-Brand Grass Yellow

Nymphalidae
Danaus plexippus – Monarch or Wanderer
D. chrysippus petilia – Lesser Wanderer
Euploea core – Common Crow butterfly
Tirumala hamata – Blue Tiger
Acraea andromacha – Glasswing or "Little Greasy"
Melanitis leda – Evening Brown
Hypocysta adiante – Orange Ringlet
Junonia villida – Meadow Argus
Hypolimnas bolina – Common or Varied Eggfly

Glasswing (*Acraea andromacha*)

Lycaenidae
Jalmenus evagoras – Common Imperial Hairstreak plus attendant ant (*Iridomyrmex* species) on hostplant (see hostplant list)
Psychonotis caelius – Small Green-banded Blue
Candalides hyacinthinus – Large Dusky Blue
C. erinus – Small Dusky Blue
C. xanthospilos – Yellow-spot Blue
Catopyrops florinda – Speckled Line-blue
Erysichton lineata – Hairy Line-blue
Prosotas felderi – Felder's or Small-tailed Line-blue
Lampides boeticus – Long-tailed Pea-blue
Euchrysops cnejus – Spotted Pea-blue or Cupid
Nacaduba biocellata – Double-spotted Line-blue
Zizina labradus – Common Grass-blue
Zizula hylax – Tiny Grass-blue

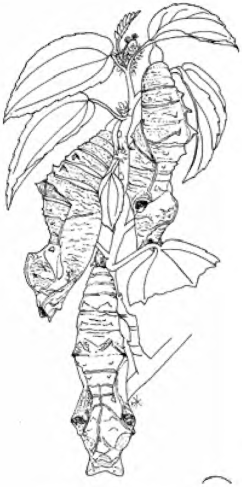
Small Green-banded Blue (Psychonotis caelius)

Hesperiidae
Ocybadistes walkeri – Greenish Grass-dart
Toxidia peron – Dingy Grass-skipper
Trapezites symmomus – Symmomus Skipper or Splendid Ochre

Butterfly Hostplants identified at Enoggera Military Camp bushland
(butterfly associated in brackets)

Aristolochia species D'Aguilar Range (*Cressida cressida* larva present)
Acacia leiocalyx (*Jalmenus evagoras*)
Breynia oblongifolia (*Eurema hecabe*)
Chaemochrista nomame (*E. brigitta*)
Desmodium heterocarpon (*Everes lacturnus, Zizina labradus*)
Crotalaria montana (*Catochrysops panormus, Lampides boeticus*)
Gomphocarpus physocarpus (exotic) (*Danaus plexippus, D. chrysippus*)
Goodenia rotundifolia (*Junonia villida*)
Hybanthus stellarioides (*Achraea andromacha*)
Indigofera hirsuita (*Freyeria putli*)
Oxalis corniculata (exotic) (*Lucia limbaria*)
Pimelia linifolia (*Candalides xanthospilos*)
Pipturis argenteus (*Catopyrops florinda* – larvae and adults)
Plantago sp. (Hairy leaved → Qld. Herbarium for identification) (*Junonia villida*)
Pseuderanthemum variable (*Junonia orithya, Doleschallia bisaltide*)
Sida rhombifolia (*Hypolimnas bolina*)
Sesbania cannabina (*Eurema hecabe*)
Tephrosia rufula (*Jamides phaseli*)
Vigna vexillata (??v. *luteola*) (*Euchrysops cnejus*)
Rostelularia adscendens (*Junonia orithya*)
Cayratia clematidia)Native Grapes hostplants of the
)Joseph's Coat Moth *Agarista*
Cissus opacus) *agricola*

Breynia oblongifolia


Pipturis argenteus with White Nymph pupae

John Moss

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Whites Hill – Pine Mountain "Walk on the Wildside"

Many thanks to Helen Schwencke and Frank Jordan who joined the Whites Hill-Pine Mountain Community Group's 'Walk on the Wildside' on 28 March. This walk is held on the 4th Sunday of every month and is open to all who enjoy a ramble through the bush, good company and fauna-flora observation.

The Whites Hill-Pine Mountain Community Group Inc. is presently collecting as much data as possible regarding Whites Hill Reserve to send to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to raise the significance of the Reserve from local to State significance. Of special interest to invertebrate fans - rare spiders have been reported at Whites Hill and the host plant *Cladium procerum,* a sedge, for a rare butterfly, the Southern Sedge Darter *(Telicota eurychlora)* has been identified. Unfortunately, this butterfly has not been sighted here yet.

At the present time the Queensland Museum is involved through John Stanisic and his team, who are coordinating a survey in Whites Hill. Pitfall traps were laid late in February. All available information and sightings from this location are being put into computer format and will be available on CD for the various levels of Government and for community members when finished.

Over the years we have worked together with members from the Butterfly and Other Invertebrates Club and value your support and hence our request once again to Frank and Helen for assistance.

We assembled at Jones Road at 7.30am eager to learn more about our invertebrate friends, to increase our knowledge of butterfly host plant identification and perhaps to catch a glimpse of a Powerful Owl *(Ninox strenura)*, a threatened species sighted on the previous month's walk.

A fascinating time was had by all. Butterflies observed included the Blue Tiger *(Tirumala hamata)*, Orange Ringlet *(Hypocysta adiante)*, an Evening Brown *(Melanitis leda)* which had just emerged from the chrysalis, Imperial Hairstreak *(Jalmenus evagoras)*, Australian Leafwing *(Doleschallia bisaltide)* and caterpillar, Common Crow *(Euploea core)*, various Blues such as the Common Grass-blue *(Zizina labradus)* Speckled Line-blue *(Catopyrops florinda)*, and others, Glasswing *(Acraea andromacha)* and Blue Triangle *(Graphium sarpedon)*. Of special interest – an emerged Common Crow butterfly chrysalis was found on *Parsonsia brisbanensis*. It was useful to confirm that this species of Parsonsia is used in the Brisbane area.

Also an incredible sight. A number of Imperial Hairstreak (previously known as Common Imperial Blue) caterpillars being tended by ants. Personally I have only previously seen this on a slide presentation and it is something I will always remember as being very special. My knowledge is also expanding with one of those funny happening moments. Frank was some

Imperial Hairstreak (*Jalmenus evagoras*) distance ahead of Helen when he spotted this interesting occurrence and yelled "Imperial Hair … streak"! I thought a-ha. This couple has a similarly wacky sense of humour to mine and this was Frank's term of endearment or meant come here on the double to Helen. I then discovered that it was actually the name of the butterfly.

We also spotted numerous spiders including the Golden Orb Weaver, Quicksilver or Dewdrop (*Argyrodes* sp.), Silver Camel Spider and a Leaf Curling Spider.

Many thanks to Brett Lewis who shares an interest in invertebrates and was leading the walk. Birds observed included the Brahminy Kite, Noisy Miner, Galah, Crow, Noisy Friarbird, Golden Headed Cisticolar, Spangled Drongo, Kookaburra, Rainbow Lorikeet; birds heard included Sulphur Crested Cockatoo, Pardalote and Magpie.

By the end of the walk we had completed enough neck exercises to last a month - perhaps reflecting the joys and difficulties of looking up and down and adjusting pace from slow to 'Imperial Hairstreak' whilst simultaneously observing the vertebrate and invertebrate world. ***Rosamond Dalgleish***

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Bouquets for Butterflies

Warm sunny days, bees humming, the delicious scents of flowers, crushed leaves and the earthy smell of the bush, cicadas drumming, dragonflies hovering and the call of birds, such are some of the delights of our Spring, Summer and even Autumn seasons. As the days lengthen and summer turns up the heat the jewels of the garden appear in ever increasing numbers. Ah! Fragile and as elusive as a summer breeze, but what entices the bejeweled butterfly to grace our gardens and perhaps to court, procreate and linger, for us to enjoy.

Two things are essential. Caterpillar food and butterfly food. We know that to have a butterfly we must have a suitable host plant on which the female deposits her eggs. The resultant caterpillars, having eaten to their capacity, pupate and secreted from inquisitive eyes inside their protective shields the caterpillars are transformed, lovingly pre-programmed by the Creator, to finally emerge as a glorious butterfly, once again to maintain and complete the circle of life.

Once emerged the butterfly needs nectar to feed upon although some butterflies feed from fermenting fruit juices. The Evening Brown is an example of this and the Tailed Emperor feeds from the sap of certain trees, but as a general rule butterflies need flowers.

What attracts butterflies to flowers? Many things apparently. Colour and perfume play a part as does shape and situation, whether in sun or shade and even the overall pattern of the flower. Different species of butterfly have distinct preferences although three blossoms I have found to be attractive to a wide variety of butterflies are Buddleia, the vanilla scented white Duranta and Lantana. Most suitable flowers are those that are trumpet shaped or funnel shaped below, a receptacle into which the head and proboscis can be plunged and above a surrounding area or petals on which to perch. Pollen is transferred from flower to flower as they feed so butterflies are useful pollinators.

Butterflies have sensitive chemical receptors in their feet. They scratch the surface of the host plant before egg laying and test the nectar in this way also, as well as with their proboscis before imbibing.

So, mainly through observation, a list of attractive nectar plants follows, but it must be remembered that profusion and a certain wildness is also attractive. Butterflies are not "politically correct". They will partake of nectar from exotics as well as natives with equal relish and I make no apologies for including them as they often have a longer flowering period than natives. Included are the butterflies these plants attract if they are known.

I would welcome any additions to this list. It's often surprising what flowers butterflies relish. Please share your observations with us.

Exotics
Buddleia (mauve, pink and white) – Blues, Wanderers, Leafwings, Triangles and Eggflies
**Duranta* (white) – Blues, yellows, Macleays, Triangles, Leafwings
Bougainvillea (pink) – Yellows, Lemon Migrants and Birdwings
Pentas (salmon, pinks, red, white) – Orchards, from small blues to Birdwings
*Lantana – most butterflies attracted to it
*Japanese Honeysuckle – Orchards
Justica – Orchards
Verbena (weeds – *bonsarienis* and *offinalis*) and garden varieties – Caper Whites and Blues
Clerodendron (red flowering vine) – Orchards
Pansies and Violas – Painted Lady and Blues
Dianthus
Daisies – Painted Ladies and Australian Admirals
Herbs (flowering)
Heliotrope – Blues, Skippers and Heliotrope and Magpie Moths
Pink Vinca or Periwinkle – Orchards and Hawk Moths
Clover – Blues
Coblers Pegs – Blues
Pawpaw – Tailed Emperor
Chinese Star Jasmine – 3 species of Skippers
Ixora (red) – Orchards

*Impatiens (single form) – Orchards and others
Milk Weed (Balloon Cotton Bush) white – Wanderer, Common Crow
Sida retusa (weed) – Blues including Small Copper
Cuphea (small purple flowers) – Blues
Curry Bush (*Murraya koenigii*) – Pale Triangles
Poincettia – Yellows and Migrants (good autumn food source)
Crotalaria (weed) – Danaids, Crows and Tailed Pea-blue
Allysum – Blues

* These are classed as environmental weeds. Take care they do not escape into bushland areas.

Parsonsia straminea

Natives

Parsonsia straminea and *P. velutina* – Small butterflies from Blue Triangle down
Micromelum minutum – very attractive to many species
Pimelea ligustrina – Jezebels, Macleays, Admirals, Painted Ladies
P. latifolia and *P. linifolia* – Skippers and small Blues
Baeckea crenulata (or *imbricata*) – Common Crows, Blue Triangles and Varied Eggflies
Brush Cherry (*Syzgium australe*) – Blues
Arrowhead violet – Large Grass Yellows
Macadamia – Blues
Eleocarpus grandis (Blue Quondong) – Jezebels, Varied Eggflies
Golden Penda – highly attractive to a wide range of butterflies including Orchards, Yellows and Triangles
Grevillea (Honey Gem) – Wanderers, Common Crows and Blues
Eucalyptus ptychocarpa and *E. curtisii* – Butterflies and beetles
Buckinghamia celsissima - Migrants and others
Rhodamnia rubescens – Skippers
Alstonia - Crows and Danaids
Evodia (*Melicope elleryana*) – Blue Tigers during migrations
Corymbia intermedia (Pink Bloodwood) – Richmond Birdwing plus other butterflies and beetles

Pimelea. linifolia

Native Nectar sources taken (with permission) from Graham McDonald's book Growing a Butterfly Garden in South East Queensland

Angophora floribunda (Rough Apple) – Small tree, excellent nectar
Angophora leiocarpa (Smooth-barked Apple) – Ornamental hardy tree
Angophora subvelutina (Broadleaf Apple) – Flowers in December
Backhousia citriodora (Lemon Myrtle) – Scented leaves
Baeckea virgata (Twiggy Heath Myrtle) – Very hardy shrub
Bursaria spinosa (Black Thorn, Prickly Pine) – Highly attracting, very hardy
Callistemon viminalis (Red Bottlebrush) – Some small forms available
Clerodendron floribundum (Lolly Bush) – Small tree
Commersonia bartramia (Brown Kurrajong) – Flowers at Christmas
Commersonia fraseri – Flowers at Christmas
Corymbia ptychocarpa (Pink-Flowering Bloodwood) – Known to attract the Richmond Birdwing butterfly
Decaspermum humile (Silky Myrtle) – Masses of White Flowers
Elattostachys nervosa (Green Tamarind) – Bushy tree
Elattostachys xylocarpa (White Tamarind) – Worth a try
Evodiella muelleri (now *Melicope rubra*) (Little Evodia) – Compact, suits small gardens
Flindersia bennettiana (Bennett's Ash) – Scented flowers
Melaleuca decora – Flowers in spring
Melaleuca leucadendron (Weeping Paperbark Tea Tree) – Very good, but short flowering period

Melaleuca quinquenervia (Paperbark Tea Tree) – Very good
Melaleuca seiberi – Flowers in spring
Melicope elleryana (Pink Doughwood) – Also attracts lorikeets
Micromelum minutum (Lime Bush) – Highly attracting, difficult to obtain
Morinda jasminoides (Morinda) – Small vine
Parsonsia straminea (Monkey Vine, Common Silkpod) – Excellent nectar source, highly attracting, grow on low trellis
Pavetta australiensis (Pavetta) – Excellent nectar source, highly attracting
Pavetta sp. Cape York – Excellent nectar source, highly attracting
Pimelea latifolia (Rice Flower) – Attracts small butterflies
Pimelea linifolia (Rice Flower) – Attracts small butterflies
Pittosporum rhombifolium (Queensland Hollywood) – Ornamental small tree
Terminalia porphyrocarpa (A Native Almond) – Honey-scented flowers in October and November

Micromelum minutum

Lois Hughes

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Further to *Jalmenus evagoras* translocation **Issue No 32 March 2004**

Ed. In November 2001 Martyn Robinson was shown a site in Kellyville NSW where a colony of Imperial Blue butterflies *Jalmenus evagoras* were soon to be bulldozed for new housing blocks. He relocated the nest (successfully it seems). Martyn has been keeping me up to date on the above so I will pass it on to you in the form of dairy entries.

19 Jan. 2004 - A footnote to the *Jalmenus evagoras* saga - I was watching *Polistes* Paper Wasps trying to steal caterpillars from the ants. They would examine all the tips and shoots and if they found a small (up to 15mm) poorly tended larva they would peel it away from the foliage and take it to an ant free shoot and chew it up, then fly off. The ants would usually swarm to the site of an attack and if they were in time they would often be able to drive the wasp away. Sometimes I saw the wasps alight on one area and the ants would swarm towards it and it would immediately go to the area they had vacated and check for small caterpillars there - this may have been coincidental but it looked very effective! Certainly the larvae seem to cluster more when wasps are about and as small larvae are less vigorously attended than larger ones this makes a lot of survival sense.

Was curious to see the wasps being accidentally helped by a Botany Bay Diamond Weevil (*Chrysolopus spectabilis*) which blundered through a caterpillar cluster while covered in biting ants and seemingly totally unconcerned - they must be built like tanks. Anyway the larvae started to move about after the disturbance and a wasp got one. Their persistence must pay off as there's a lot fewer small larvae than I would have expected after all the eggs.

Martyn Robinson

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John Moss has a supply of seeds of *Polyalthia nitidissima* (Canary Beech) sent to him for distribution to our members by Alan King of Townsville.

This is a small tree (to 5 metres) suitable for smaller gardens and is hostplant for the Pale Triangle (*Graphium eurypylus*).

Alan's notes suggest germinating seeds "in straight fine sand and keep on the dry side, as the seeds rot if they take up too much water" There is about 50% germination with some seeds staying "dormant until the temperature rises next summer." He goes on to say that "seedlings die if kept too wet." He has coated the seeds with the fungicide Thiram to preserve them.

Any members wanting seeds can send a stamped self-addressed envelope to John via the Club mailbox.

YOU ASKED

Q

I am concerned that my garden is not setting a good example – too many butterflies floating around and lazily sipping nectar. I would like to improve its moral tone by attracting more of those industrious and hard-working native bees. Something easy and simple though.

A

Try growing one of the native Sennas (*Senna surattensis* or *S. gaudichaudii*). This will attract buzz pollinators like Blue-banded bees (*Amegilla* sp.) and large Carpenter bees (*Xylocarpa* sp.). One of the smaller eucalypts like the Plunkett Mallee (*Eucalyptus curtessii*) or those newer grafted or hybrid ones will attract bees like the Yellow-spotted bee (*Hylaeus* sp.). The gardens of those locals who still insist on growing there own vegetables often include large plants of Bush Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) of a hairy-leafed variety. These have a multitude of flowers attractive to Leafcutter bees (*Megachile* sp.), orange-bodied Mason bees (*Chalicodoma* sp.).and native Stingless bees (*Trigona* sp.).

Frank Jordan

LETTERS

Dear Members,

I enjoy reading the BOIC newsletters and am wondering if the publications committee may think a book in the Chinchilla Field Naturalists' Club Library called "Invertebrates for Collecting and Preserving Valuable Lepidoptera. Copyright 1917 by James Sinclair. Entomologist" to be of interest. (This publication was given to the CFNC by a couple when they were packing to move into a retirement village. It had belonged to her grandfather.)

I have photocopied a few pages so BOIC members can get some idea of the trade in Lepidoptera in USA in those days. (Australian collectors also traded – e.g. the Dodds family.)

I have included the index to show the wide coverage of the subject. If you think some other sections may be of interest I could photocopy and send them.

Keep up the good work,

Yours truly Grace Lithgow

Ed. Grace has since sent us the book and we plan to present some excerpts from it in future newsletters.

WORLD WIDE WEB SITES TO WATCH

Web Links About Lepidoptera.
Close to 300 sites about butterflies and moths from all around the world
http://alpha.furman.edu/~snyder/snyder/lep/lepidop.htm

YOUR CLUB'S MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

In February, 2002 your Club's organising committee decided to start encouraging members to network with each other in their local areas, and across their areas of interest. To this end we have now produced a membership directory. Only those members who have given us their permission have been included in the directory.

If you would like to be in a future issue of the directory please email Daphne at bowden@itconnect.net.au or phone: 07 3396 6334

LIBRARY BOOKS FOR LOAN

The following books are currently available for loan at meetings:-

Australia's Butterflies, by Peter Wilson
Butterfly Magic, by Helen Schwencke and Frank Jordan
Australian Cicadas, by Max Moulds
Butterflies of Australia, by Common and Waterhouse, 1981
Butterfly Watching, by Paul Whalley
Flying Colours, by Mike and Pat Couper
All Colour Book of Butterflies, by Robert Goodden
Lifecycle of the Ulysses Butterfly, Video, by Janet Richardson
Lifecycle of the Cairns Birdwing Butterfly, Video, by Janet Richardson
Bugs, Beetles, Spiders and Snakes by Ken Preston-Mafham, Nigel Marven and Rob Harvey
Collecting, Preserving and Classifying Insects by Queensland Museum
Australia's Insect Life by Peter Wilson
Butterflies of Australia by I.F.B. Common and D.F. Waterhouse. This is a 1981 reprint

AVAILABLE FROM BOIC

Grow More Butterflies –
A selection of articles published in previous Newsletters $3.30 plus $1.10 postage

Butterfly Gardening –
A series of articles published in previous Newsletters $2.20 plus $1.10 postage

Butterfly Host Plants of SE Qld. and Nth. NSW –
A comprehensive list of host plants for this region $5.50 plus $1.10 postage

The **Butterfly Alphabet Poster** which shows all the letters of the alphabet and numerals 1-9 appearing in the wings of butterflies and moths. This poster can be viewed by visiting www.butterflyalphabet.com
Cost: Non-members $25 plus $5 postage Members $23 plus $5 postage

The **Domino Poster** - A guide for field, school or garden with 250 Australian butterfly illustrations in colour
Cost: Non-members $10 plus $1.10 postage Members $8 plus $1.10 postage

Poster -**Lifecycles of the Swallowtail Butterflies of South East Queensland**, compiled by the BOIC
Cost: Non-members $10 plus $5 postage Members $6 plus $5 postage

These items can be obtained from BOIC, PO Box 2113, Runcorn, 4113.

BACK ISSUES

Back Issues of the Club Newsletter are available at a cost of $2 each plus postage (1-2 copies $1.10 - 3-6 copies $1.50).

OTHER GROUPS' ACTIVITIES

Woodford Folk Festival – site maintenance and Butterfly Walk revegetation happens on the last Sunday of every month. Our Club, through Frank Jordan and Helen Schwencke are involved in this project. Other members are welcome to become involved. We will also be holding an information stall during the forthcoming festival in December 2004.

International Congress of Entomology is being held in Brisbane from the 15th-21st August

Society for Growing Australian Plants : Spring Plant sale is to be held at the Mt. Gravatt Showgrounds, Cnr. Logan & Broadwater Roads, Mt. Gravatt, on **Saturday 30th October 2004.** This is the place to come if you are looking for :-

- Unusual, hard to find, rare or different native plants.
- Plants that are frog and butterfly friendly
- Grafted plants - bushfood plants - palms & ferns - old favourites
- Plants for all situations - rainforest, cottage garden, regeneration, landscaping, water gardens, any gardens
- Also featuring expert advice, book sales, light refreshments

Society for Growing Australian Plants (Redlands Branch) invites BOIC members to a slide presentation (and specimen display) by Dr. John Moss on "Mistletoes – their flowers, fruit and associated butterflies" on Wednesday 23rd June, 2004 at 7.30 pm at Redlands IndigiScapes Centre, Runnymede Road, Capalaba . This presentation will be given again on 6th July at the Western Suburbs Branch held at the Chapel Hill State School at 7.30pm. if this is more convenient for you. For more details contact John on 3245 2997

BUTTERFLY AND OTHER INVERTEBRATES CLUB PROGRAMME

Visit to Frank Jordan & Helen Schwencke's butterfly garden

When: Sunday, 20th June, 10am – 12 noon
Where: West End. Numbers are limited to 15. Location provided upon booking.
What: Helen & Frank's 400 sq m suburban block has over 60 species of host plants. 43 species of local butterflies have been recorded as breeding in their backyard.
To be followed at 12.30pm by a discussion on where the club has come from and possible future directions.
Bring: Morning Tea
Contact: Helen 07 38446677 or email bowden@itconnect.net.au

Dutton Park Butterfly Habitat

When: Sunday, 4th July, 10am – 12 noon
Where: Behind the Scout Den at Harmony Gardens, Waterview Tce, Dutton Park. (2003 UBD Map 179, Ref N3)
What: The butterfly habitat at Dutton Park is a BCC Bushcare group run by our Club in conjunction with the local Scout group. Members are welcome to become involved. This meeting will be used to decide the best meeting time for those interested in future involvement. The Kurilpa Scouts are looking for new members, for more information about the scout group contact Quentin Carson Beales ph. 3268 1370.
Bring: Morning Tea, hat.
Contact: Helen 07 38446677 or email bowden@itconnect.net.au

Winter Program – Creepy crawlies on the Internet

When: Thursday, 22nd July, 2004, 7:30 – 9:30pm
Where: IndigiScapes Centre, Runnymede Road, Capalaba (2003 UBD Map 204 Ref L5)
What: Peter Chew and his family have mounted a wonderful invertebrate website, see: http://www.geocities.com/pchew_brisbane/ In an informal discussion, Peter will come and talk with us about his interest, what he's doing and bring along items for show and tell.
Contact: Daphne 07 3396 6334 or email bowden@itconnect.net.au to RSVP or for more details

Planning and Management Meeting

What: Our planning meetings are informative and interesting. As well as planning our activities we share lots of information. All members are welcome.
When: Wednesday 4th August, 2004 at 6.30 pm
Where: to be advised upon RSVP
Contact: Daphne 07 3396 6334 or email bowden@itconnect.net.au to RSVP or for more details

Winter Program – Littoral Zone Invertebrates

When: Thursday, 26th August, 2004, 7:30 – 9:30pm
Where: IndigiScapes Centre, Runnymede Road, Capalaba (2003 UBD Map 204 Ref L5)
What: A talk on the kinds of animals we could find on the exposed rocks during our excursion to Point Cartwright (Mooloolaba River mouth), at the Spring low tide, on the 26th September. The talk will be given by Peter Davie, Senior Curator (Crustacea), Qld Centre for Biodiversity, Queensland Museum
Contact: Daphne 07 3396 6334 or email bowden@itconnect.net.au to RSVP or for more details

Society for Growing Australian Plants : Spring Flower Show

When: Saturday & Sunday, 11th & 12th September, 2004
Where: Mt Cootha Botanic Gardens Auditorium (2003 UBD Map 158 Ref L14)
What: This is SGAP's annual flower show with displays of native plants from around Queensland and other states. Our Club will conduct an information stall on butterfly host plants
Contact: Daphne 07 3396 6334 or email bowden@itconnect.net.au if you'd like to help out or for more details

Marine Invertebrates Excursion to Point Cartright, Mooloolabah

When: Sunday, 26th September, 2004, meet 10.15am – 2.30pm
Where: Meet at the Harbour Parade Carpark, Buddina (UBD 2003 Sunshine Coast Map 80, Ref K3)
What: Under the guidance of Christine Clegg, a marine scientist who will interpret for us, we'll be looking at the wide and wonderful variety of marine creatures that become exposed in rock pools at the Spring Low tide (one of the lowest tides of the year). Should this wonderful experience not be available (eg. because of a storm surge, we'll look at the forest on the headland for butterfly host plants).
Bring: Morning Tea, Lunch and afternoon tea. for yourself, or to share. Rock-hopping and/or waterproof shoes will be needed. Sunscreen, hat, and insect repellant may also be useful.
Contact: Daphne 07 3396 6334 or email bowden@itconnect.net.au

If you plan to attend one of the above events, please contact the person indicated in case, for some unforeseen circumstance, the event has had to be postponed or cancelled.

DISCLAIMER

The Newsletter seeks to be as scientifically accurate as possible but the views, opinions and observations expressed are those of the authors. The Newsletter is merely a platform for people to express their views and are not necessarily those of the BOIC. If inaccuracies have inadvertently occurred and are brought to our attention we will seek to correct them in future editions. The Editor reserves the right to refuse to print any matter which is unsuitable, inappropriate or objectionable and to make nomenclature changes as appropriate.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Producing this newsletter is done with to the efforts of:

- Those members who have sent in letters and articles
- Lois Hughes who provides illustrations including the cover
- Daphne Bowden who works on layout, production and distribution
- John Moss for scientific referencing and proof reading
- Helen Schwencke who developed the overall design

We would like to thank all these people for their contribution

ARE YOU A MEMBER

Please check your mailing label for the date your membership is due for renewal. If your membership is due, please renew as soon as possible.
Membership fees are $12.00 for Individuals/Schools and $17.00 for family membership.
Would you please advise bowden@itconnect.net.au if you get/change an email address.

Butterfly and Other Invertebrates Club Inc.
c/- PO Box 2113
RUNCORN Q. 4113

Next Meeting: Visit to Frank Jordan & Helen Schwencke's butterfly garden on Sunday, 20th June, 10am – 12 noon (see programme for details)